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6 November 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL H. A. CRAIG, OPD
MAJOR GENERAL E. R. QUESADA, AAF
MAJOR GENERAL W. G. WYMAN, AGF
COLONEL J. M. ROAMER, ASF
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN MAGRUDER, SSU

SUBJECT: Committee to Study War Department Intelligence Activities.

1. Mr. Lovett has directed me to inform you that the preliminary report of the Committee, dated 3 November 1945, has been approved by the Secretary of War.

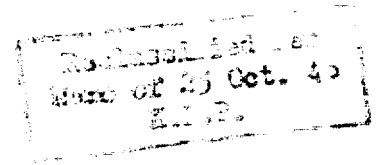
2. Mr. Lovett has also advised that a new Committee will be appointed to consider intelligence reorganization within the Army and War Department.

CARTER W. CLARKE
Brigadier General, GSC
Deputy Chief, MIS

OSD HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE.

OSD review(s) completed.

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3 November 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

SUBJECT: Preliminary Report of Committee Appointed to Study War Department Intelligence Activities.

The undersigned special committee was appointed by order of the Secretary of War, dated 22 October 1945 (Tab A) to advise the Secretary of War on certain intelligence matters more fully set forth in said order, including the formulation of a plan for War Department activities in the field of foreign intelligence, the existing and proposed organization of G-2, A-2 and the Strategic Services Unit, now attached to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War, and the future use or disposition that should be made of all intelligence activities within the War Department. The Committee was directed to make its report not later than 3 November 1945.

In the limited time available since its appointment the committee has made as intensive a study as practicable of the various subjects covered in the Secretary's order. It has held nine meetings of the full committee. By means of a special questionnaire it requested and secured written reports from the Assistant Chief of Staff, OPD, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Assistant Chief of Air Staff-2, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AGF, Director of Intelligence, ASF, Director, Strategic Services Unit and Director, Special Planning Division, War Department Special Staff. Copies of these reports are available for inspection. In addition, the committee took the formal testimony of Major General Clayton Bissell (Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff); Mr. William E. Jackson (formerly Assistant Military Attache for Air in [redacted] Chief of Secret Intelligence

[redacted] Branch of G-2, ETO) Planning Group, OSS (European Theater) and [redacted] (Deputy Chief SI Branch, SSU); Mr. Lowell Weicker (Kingman Douglas (Mr. Weicker served during the war as Acting A-2 of the Eighth Air Force and Director of Intelligence of USSTAF, and Mr. Douglas as AAF representative at the Air Ministry in London); Colonel William Quinn (Executive Officer of SSU); Colonel Gordon B. Rogers (formerly G-2, AGF); Lt. General Stanley D. Embick (member of the Joint Strategic Survey Committee); and Mr. Alfred McCormack (Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Intelligence, and formerly Director of Intelligence, MIS). In addition, all members of the Committee held numerous informal conversations with [redacted]

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If such a program is successfully carried out, there will be assembled under the direct control of the Interim Activities Director all personnel controlled by the War Department who are engaged in foreign espionage and counter-espionage activities, whom it is desired to transfer to the Central Intelligence Agency, and it will be possible to coordinate their various activities until such time as their transfer to the Central Intelligence Agency can be effected. In the event that higher authority finally decides not to create a Central Intelligence Agency, the personnel so controlled by the Interim Activities Director should be then transferred to the direct control and administration of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

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REPORT OF THE LOVETT COMMITTEE

The committee took its duties very seriously and was ready with its preliminary report scarcely a week after it had first been convened. The fact that its reasoned conclusions could be unanimously presented in such a brief time is an indication of the degree to which the idea of a centralized intelligence service had gained acceptance.

A close comparison of the committee's recommendations with the final proposal of the Secretaries to the President and the Presidential directive establishing the NIA is well worth while. A major and very important difference appears where the committee recommends that the Central Intelligence Agency should be supported by an independent budget. The Secretaries recommended that funds should be drawn from the various departments, and ~~the~~ recommendation was implicitly carried out in the Presidential directive. This ~~rather unique~~ provision was the result of a compromise with a very different plan presented by Alfred McCormack, Special Assistant to the Secretary of State. His plan is included in this collection immediately following the report of the Lovett Committee.